

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
2nd Session

Vote No. 170

June 26, 1996, 9:34 a.m.
Page S-6906 Temp. Record

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION/Cloture (First Attempt)

SUBJECT: National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997 . . . S. 1745. Lott motion to close debate.

ACTION: CLOTURE MOTION REJECTED, 52-46

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. 1745, the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1997, will authorize a total of \$267.3 billion in budget authority for national defense programs (the President requested \$254.3 billion). In real terms, this bill will authorize \$5.6 billion less, and the President requested \$18.6 billion less, than was provided in fiscal year (FY) 1996.

On June 20, 1996, Senator Lott sent to the desk, for himself and others, a motion to close debate on the bill.

NOTE: The motion to invoke cloture requires a three-fifths majority (60) vote of the Senate to succeed.

Those favoring the motion to invoke cloture contended:

Thus far we have debated this bill for 28 hours and have disposed of 39 amendments. Many amendments that have been offered have not only been nongermane, they have been nonrelevant. We tried to limit amendments last week by unanimous consent, but some Senators objected. Often, we have had difficulty getting Senators to the floor to offer their amendments, but each day this bill goes on it seems that Senators' staff are able to dream up a few dozen more amendments that might be offered. If we intend to pass S. 1745 anytime this year, we eventually are going to have to stop Senators from trying to load it up with any issue that comes to mind. The defense of our Nation should not be treated so casually. Senators should join us in closing debate and then passing this bill.

Those opposing the motion to invoke cloture contended:

We sympathize with our colleagues' arguments, but we believe their motion is premature. We know of several amendments on both sides of the aisle that are relevant to the debate on defense. Invoking cloture now would preclude the offering of those

(See other side)

YEAS (52)			NAYS (46)			NOT VOTING (2)	
Republicans (51 or 98%)	Democrats (1 or 2%)		Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (45 or 98%)		Republicans (1)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Hatfield	Pell	Lugar	Akaka	Inouye	Helms- ²	Bumpers- ²
Ashcroft	Hutchison			Baucus	Johnston		
Bennett	Inhofe			Biden	Kennedy		
Bond	Jeffords			Bingaman	Kerrey		
Brown	Kassebaum			Boxer	Kerry		
Burns	Kempthorne			Bradley	Kohl		
Campbell	Kyl			Breaux	Lautenberg		
Chafee	Lott			Bryan	Leahy		
Coats	Mack			Byrd	Levin		
Cochran	McCain			Conrad	Lieberman		
Cohen	McConnell			Daschle	Mikulski		
Coverdell	Murkowski			Dodd	Moseley-Braun		
Craig	Nickles			Dorgan	Moynihan		
D'Amato	Pressler			Exon	Murray		
DeWine	Roth			Feingold	Nunn		
Domenici	Santorum			Feinstein	Pryor		
Faircloth	Shelby			Ford	Reid		
Frahm	Simpson			Glenn	Robb		
Frist	Smith			Graham	Rockefeller		
Gorton	Snowe			Harkin	Sarbanes		
Gramm	Specter			Heflin	Simon		
Grams	Stevens			Hollings	Wellstone		
Grassley	Thomas				Wyden		
Gregg	Thompson						
Hatch	Thurmond						
	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

1—Official Business
2—Necessarily Absent
3—Illness
4—Other

SYMBOLS:

AY—Announced Yea
AN—Announced Nay
PY—Paired Yea
PN—Paired Nay

amendments. We are disappointed that we are not yet at a point at which limiting debate would be advisable, and we hope that we will eventually reach such a point, but for now we must vote against invoking cloture.